UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

HOWARD COHAN,) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF REQUESTED
Plaintiff,)
V) CASE NO.:
LAKHANY HOLDINGS, LLC, d/b/a GRANITE CITY FOOD AND BREWERY,)))
Defendant.))

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, HOWARD COHAN ("Plaintiff"), by and through his undersigned counsel, hereby files this Complaint against LAKHANY HOLDINGS, LLC, d/b/a GRANITE CITY FOOD AND BREWERY ("Defendant") for declaratory and injunctive relief, attorneys' fees, expenses and costs (including, but not limited to, court costs and expert fees) pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12182 et. seq., and the 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") and alleges as follows:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This Court is vested with original jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1331 because Plaintiff's claims arising under Title 42 U.S.C. §12182 *et. seq.*, based on Defendant's violations of Title III of the ADA. *See also* 28 U.S.C. §§2201 and 2202, as well as the 2010 ADA Standards.
- 2. Venue is proper in this Court, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(B) in that all events giving rise to the lawsuit occurred in the Northern District of Illinois Eastern District.

PARTIES

- 3. Plaintiff, HOWARD COHAN is a resident of the state of Florida residing in Palm Beach County, Florida.
- 4. The Defendant is located at 801 N. Plaza Drive, Schaumburg, IL 60173. (Thereinafter "The Premises")
- 5. The Premises is a restaurant and bar doing business as Granite City Food and Brewery, thereby making it a place of public accommodation.
- 6. Defendant is authorized to conduct and is, in fact, conducting, business within the state of Illinois.

PLAINTIFF'S DISABILITIES

- 7. Plaintiff is an individual with numerous permanent disabilities including severe spinal stenosis of the lumbar spine with spondylolisthesis; severe spinal stenosis of the cervical spine with nerve root compromise on the right side; a non-union fracture of the left acromion (shoulder); a labral tear of the left shoulder; a full thickness tear of the right rotator cuff; a right knee medial meniscal tear; a repaired ACL and bilateral meniscal tear of the left knee; and severe basal joint arthritis of the left thumb. The above listed permanent disabilities and symptoms cause sudden onsets of severe pain and substantially limit Plaintiff's major life activities, including moving, sitting and standing.
- 8. At the time of Plaintiff's visit to the Premises on October 11, 2024 (and prior to instituting this action), Plaintiff suffered from a "qualified disability" under the ADA and required the use of a handicap parking space and the use of other means of accessibility for persons with disabilities. Plaintiff personally visited the Premises, but was denied full and equal access and full

and equal enjoyment of the facilities, services, goods and amenities within the Premises, even though he would be classified as a "bona fide patron".

- 9. Except for the period of the pandemic in 2020 and 2021, Plaintiff frequently travels to Illinois and had averaged at least two (2) trips per year for the past ten (10) years. Recently, these trips include the Northwest suburbs of Chicago where Plaintiff enjoys meeting with his friends and attorneys and visiting the area's restaurants and shops. He intends to return to the Northwest suburbs of Chicago in the summer or fall of 2025, subject to weather and his physical ability to do so.
- 10. When Plaintiff arrives in Northwest suburbs of Chicago, he looks for restaurants where he can eat or have a beverage that will accommodate his disabilities. This includes visiting multiple restaurants, including the Defendant's restaurant.
- 11. While Plaintiff does not pre-determine what violations, if any, exist, it is not uncommon for many of the restaurants that he visits to have the same, or similar, ADA violations, because what they all have in common is bar and dining area and restrooms.
- 12. Plaintiff is familiar with other restaurants in the Northwest suburbs of Chicago, having visited many. Through these visits, Plaintiff found that many of the area's restaurants have failed to comply with the ADA and, as a result, have discriminated against Plaintiff and other persons with disabilities by maintaining architectural and other barriers that deny the disabled full and equal access and full and equal enjoyment of the facilities, services, goods, and amenities within the restaurant. Accordingly, before Plaintiff selects a restaurant to eat in, he tries to personally visit it to ensure it is ADA compliant, even when it advertises itself as such.
- 13. Completely independent of his personal desire to have access to places of public accommodation free of illegal barriers to access, Plaintiff also acts as a "tester" for the purpose of

discovering, encountering and engaging discrimination against the disabled in public accommodations. When acting as a "tester", Plaintiff employs a routine practice. Plaintiff personally visits the public accommodation; engages all of the barriers to access, or at least of those that Plaintiff is able to access; tests all of those barriers of access to determine whether and the extent to which they are illegal barriers to access; proceeds with legal action to enjoin such discrimination; and subsequently returns to the public accommodation to verify its compliance or non-compliance with the ADA and to otherwise use the public accommodation as members of the able-bodied community are able to do.

DEFENDANT'S VIOLATIONS OF THE ADA

- 14. On October 11, 2024, Plaintiff visited the Defendant's Premises to determine whether it would be an adequate restaurant for a person with disabilities to eat or drink at, including himself, while visiting Northwest suburbs of Chicago.
- 15. Based on a preliminary inspection of the Premises, Defendant is in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 12182 et. seq. and the 2010 American Disabilities Act Standards et. seq., and is discriminating against Plaintiff as a result of, inter alia, the following specific barriers and violations that Plaintiff personally physically encountered and observed.

I. Bar and Bar Area:

a. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Inaccessible Bar because lower portion of Bar is used by servers.

Violation: Providing counter heights exceeding 36 inches making it impossible to service a person with a disability in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§904, 904.4, 904.4.1 and 904.4.2 and/or §§4.32.4, 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact: With severe spinal and shoulder injuries, Plaintiff cannot comfortably access or use counters that exceed 36 inches. Reaching over such counters aggravates his shoulder injuries and creates strain on his back, leading to significant discomfort.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: provide at least two accessible tables with correct leg parameters and make a portion of the counter surface accessible that is 36 inches long minimum and 36 inches high maximum above the finished floor.

b. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Inaccessibly tables.

Violation: Failing to provide the correct height for accessible seating or work surface use for person(s) with a disability at a bar or adjacent table in the bar area, for food or beverage service in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§902, 902.1, 902.2, 902.3, 305, 306 and/or §4.32.4 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact on Plaintiff: The lack of accessible bar counter and adjacent seating makes it difficult for Plaintiff to participate in social or dining activities at the bar and bar area. Given his spinal stenosis, knee injuries, and shoulder issues, standing or using improperly configured seating leads to significant pain and discomfort.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Provide dining surfaces that are 28 inches minimum and 34 inches maximum above the finish floor or ground.

c. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Inaccessible tables because of lack of clear floor space.

Violation Failing to provide seating for a person with a disability that has the correct clear floor space for forward approach in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§902,

902.2, 305 and 306 and/or §§4.2.4, 4.2.5, 4.32.2 and 4.5 of the 1991 ADA Standards **Impact:** Improper floor space limits Plaintiff's ability to navigate comfortably. His mobility is already restricted due to his knee injuries and spinal issues, so insufficient space increases the risk of strain and pain while maneuvering.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Provide accessible tables with clear floor space and correct leg parameters dispersed throughout all seating areas.

d. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Insufficient accessible seating.

Violation: Failing to provide seating for a person with a disability that has the Failing to provide a sufficient amount of seating when dining surfaces are provided for the consumption of food or drink for a person(s) with a disability in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§226, 226.1, 902, 305 and 306.

Impact on Plaintiff: The lack of accessible bar counter and adjacent seating makes it difficult for Plaintiff to participate in social or dining activities at the bar and bar area. Given his spinal stenosis, knee injuries, and shoulder issues, standing or using improperly configured seating leads to significant pain and discomfort

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Assure that at least 5% of the dining surfaces are ADA compliant.

II. General Area of Men's Restroom

a. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Improperly designated ADA restroom.

Violation: Failing to provide proper signage for an accessible restroom or failure to redirect a person with a disability to the closest available accessible restroom facility in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§216, 216.2, 216.6, 216.8, 703, 703.1, 703.2, 703.5 and 703.7.2.1 and/or §§4.30 and 4.30.1 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact: Without proper ADA signage, Plaintiff cannot easily determine if the restroom is ADA compliance without physically entering it, nor is he directed to the closest accessible restroom.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Install proper ADA compliant signage.

b. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Inaccessible restroom due to excessive door pressure.

Violation: Providing a gate or door with a continuous opening pressure of greater than 5 lbs. exceeding the limits for a person with a disability in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§404, 404.1, 404.2, 404.2.9 and 309.4 and/or §4.13.11 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact: Plaintiff's shoulder and spinal injuries make it difficult and painful for him to open doors where the opening pressure exceeds 5 lbs.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Adjust door pressure so that the continuous opening pressure does not exceed 5 lbs.

c. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Insufficient clearance under sink

Violation: Failing to provide proper knee clearance for a person with a disability under a counter or sink element in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§306, 306.1, 306.3 and 306.3.1 and/or §4.24.3 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact on Plaintiff: Insufficient clearance under the sink poses a problem for plaintiff who frequently drops objects due to limited sensation in his hands or compromised hand function caused by his basal joint arthritis. Insufficient space increases the risk of strain and pain while maneuvering.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Assure proper knee clearance under the sink that is 11 inches deep minimum at 9 inches above the finished floor or ground, and 8 inches deep minimum at 27 inches above the finished floor or ground.

d. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Improper. Inaccessible mirror

Violation: Failing to provide mirror(s) located above lavatories or countertops at the proper height above the finished floor in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§603 and 603.3 and/or §§4.19 and 4.19.6 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact on Plaintiff: While not directly affecting Plaintiff, the improper placement of mirrors prevents access by persons confined to wheelchairs.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Lower mirrors to an ADA mandated height or install an additional full-length mirror on another available wall in the restroom.

e. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Improper toe clearance under sink

Violation: Failing to provide proper toe clearance for a person with a disability under a counter or sink element in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§306, 306.1, 306.2 and 306.2.1 and/or §§4.24 and 4.24.5 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact on Plaintiff: Insufficient clearance under the sink poses a problem for plaintiff who frequently drops objects due to limited sensation in his hands or compromised hand function caused by his basal joint arthritis. Insufficient space increases the risk of strain and pain while maneuvering.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Provide sufficient toe clearance.

f. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Inaccessible urinal.

Violation: Failing to provide the correct opening width for a forward approach into a urinal, stall door or lavatory in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§305, 305.7.1, 404, 605.3 and 606.2 and/or §§4.18.3 and 4.2.5 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact: Improper opening to urinal limits Plaintiff's ability to navigate comfortably. His mobility is already restricted due to his knee injuries and spinal issues, so insufficient space increases the risk of strain and pain while maneuvering **Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification:** Increase opening width of approach to urinal.

III. Accessible Stall of the Men's Restroom

a. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Missing stall door handle.

Violation: Failing to provide a stall door handle on one or both sides of a stall door as required for a person with a disability in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§309, 309.1, 309.2, 309.3, 309.4 and 308.

Impact on Plaintiff: The improper stall door mechanism requires tight grasping, pinching and twisting to close door without a proper door handle, resulting in pain due to compromised hand function from his basal joint arthritis.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Install a proper door handle on both sides of the stall door

b. Barrier encountered by Plaintiff: missing coat hook

Violation: Failing to provide a coat hook within the proper reach ranges for a person with a disability in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§603, 603.4 and 308 and/or §§4.25.3, 4.2.5 and 4.1.3 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact on Plaintiff: Plaintiff's shoulder and spinal injuries make it difficult for him to reach coat hooks that are placed too high A hook that is difficult to access increases strain and pain, making simple tasks more challenging.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Replace missing coat hook with a new hook in an ADA acceptable position.

c. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Improper length of side wall grab bars

Violation: Providing grab bars of improper horizontal length or spacing on the back or side wall in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§604, 604.5, 604.5.1, 604.5.2, 609 and 609.4 and/or §§4.26 and 4.26.2 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact on Plaintiff: Plaintiff relies on grab bars for stability due to his spinal and knee conditions. Improper placement and length create a safety hazard and makes transfers painful and risky.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Install grab bars of proper length on the side wall that are 42 inches long minimum, located 12 inches maximum from the rear wall and extending 54 inches minimum from the rear wall.

d. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Inaccessible toilet paper dispenser

Violation: Failure to provide toilet paper dispensers in the proper position in front of the water closet or at the correct height above the finished floor in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§ 604, 604.7 and 309.4.

Impact: Improperly placed toilet paper dispensers require awkward twisting or reaching, which causes significant discomfort and strain for Plaintiff due to his shoulder and spinal injuries.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Relocate toilet paper dispenser so that it is 7 inches minimum and 9 inches maximum in front of the water closet measured to the centerline of the dispenser.

e. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Improper placement of water closet

Violation: Failing to provide the water closet in the proper position relative to the side wall or partition in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§604 and 604.2 and/or §§4.16, 4.17.2 and 4.17.3 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact: Failure to provide water closet in the proper position from the side wall requires awkward twisting or reaching, which causes significant discomfort and strain for Plaintiff due to his shoulder and spinal injuries.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Move or adjust water closet so that it is 16 inches minimum to 18 inches maximum from the side wall.

IV. Unisex Restroom

a. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Improperly designated ADA restroom

Violation: Failing to provide proper signage for an accessible restroom or failure to redirect a person with a disability to the closest available accessible restroom facility in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§216, 216.2, 216.6, 216.8, 703, 703.1, 703.2, 703.5 and 703.7.2.1 and/or §§4.30 and 4.30.1 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact: Without proper ADA signage, Plaintiff cannot easily determine if the restroom is ADA compliance without physically entering it nor is he directed to the closest accessible restroom.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Install proper ADA compliant signage.

b. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Inaccessible restroom due to Improper Door pressure.

Violation: Providing a gate or door with a continuous opening pressure of greater than 5 lbs. exceeding the limits for a person with a disability in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§404, 404.1, 404.2, 404.2.9 and 309.4 and/or §4.13.11 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact on Plaintiff: Plaintiff's shoulder and spinal injuries make it difficult and painful for him to open doors where the opening pressure exceeds 5 lbs.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Adjust door pressure so that the continuous opening pressure does not exceed 5 lbs.

c. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Inaccessible dispenser

Violation: Failing to provide a dispenser in an accessible position (back wall or other inaccessible place) so that it can be reached by a person with a disability in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§606, 606.1, 308 and 308.2.2 and/or §§4.16.6, 4.22.7, 4.27 and 4.27.3 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact on Plaintiff: Plaintiff's shoulder and spinal injuries make it difficult for him to reach items that are placed too far back or in awkward positions. A dispenser that is difficult to access increases strain and pain, making simple tasks more challenging.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Relocate dispenser to accessible placement that is not located within the clear space around the water closet.

d. Barrier encountered by Plaintiff: Water closet in improper position

Violation: Failing to provide the water closet in the proper position relative to the side wall or partition in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§604 and 604.2 and/or §§4.16, 4.17.2 and 4.17.3 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact on Plaintiff: Plaintiff's shoulder and spinal injuries make it difficult for him to maneuver on the grab bars or reach the toilet paper dispenser when the water closet is in an improper position, resulting in increased strain and pain.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Place water closet so that it is 16 inches minimum to 18 inches maximum from the side wall.

e. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Paper towel dispenser at improper height.

Violation: Failing to provide a paper towel dispenser or its operable part at the correct height above the finished floor in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§606, 606.1 and 308 and/or §§4.16.6, 4.27, 4.27.3, 4.22.7 and 4.23.7 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact: Plaintiff's shoulder and spinal injuries make it difficult for him to reach items that are placed too far back or in awkward positions. A dispenser that is difficult to access increases strain and pain, making simple tasks more challenging.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Relocate or add an additional dispenser to accessible location

f. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Improper height of mirrors

Violation: Failing to provide mirror(s) located above lavatories or countertops at the proper height above the finished floor in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§603 and 603.3 and/or §§4.19 and 4.19.6 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact: The improper placement of mirrors prevents access by persons confined to wheelchairs.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Lower mirrors to an ADA mandated height or install an additional full-length mirror on another available wall in the restroom.

g. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Unable to use grab bars

Violation: Providing grab bars of improper horizontal length or spacing on the back and side wall in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§604, 604.5, 604.5.1, 604.5.2, 609 and 609.4 and/or §§4.26 and 4.26.2 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact: Plaintiff relies on grab bars for stability due to his spinal and knee conditions. Improper length or placement creates a safety hazard and makes transfers painful and risky.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Provide side wall grab bars that are 42 inches long minimum, located 12 inches maximum from the rear wall and extending 54 inches minimum from the rear wall and provide rear grab bars that are 36 inches long minimum and extend from the centerline of the water closet 12 inches minimum on one side and 24 inches minimum on the other side.

h. Barrier encountered by Plaintiff: Improperly positioned toilet paper dispenser.

Violation: Failing to provide toilet paper dispenser in the proper position in front of the water closet or at the correct height above the finished floor in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§604, 604.7, 604.9.6, 309.4 and/or §4.16.6 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact on Plaintiff: Plaintiff's shoulder and spinal injuries make it difficult for him to reach the toilet paper dispenser that is too far from the water closet, thereby making it difficult to access which increases strain and pain.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Place dispenser in correct position that is 7 inches minimum and 9 inches maximum in front of the water closet measured to the centerline of the dispenser.

i. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Improper height of grab bars

Violation: Failing to provide grab bars at 33 inches minimum and 36 inches maximum above the finished floor measured to the top of the gripping surface in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§604, 604.5, 609 and 609.4 and/or §§4.17.6, 4.26 and 4.26.2 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact on Plaintiff: Plaintiff relies on grab bars for stability due to his spinal and knee conditions. Improper height creates a safety hazard and makes transfers painful and risky.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Install grab bars of proper horizontal height measured 33 inches minimum and 36 inches maximum above the finished floor measured to the top of the gripping surface.

V. Outdoor Restaurant Seating Area.

a. Barrier Encountered by Plaintiff: Lack of accessible tables in outdoor seating area.

Violation: Failure to provide seating for a person(s) with a disability that has the correct clear floor space for forward approach in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§ 902, 902.2, 305 and 306.

Impact: Improper floor space limits Plaintiff's ability to navigate comfortably. His mobility is already restricted due to his knee injuries and spinal issues, so insufficient space increases the risk of strain and pain while maneuvering.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Provide a minimum of 2 accessible tables each having te clear floor or ground space of 30 inches minimum by 48 inches minimum. The depths need to be 17" and width 30" minimum.

b. Barrier encountered by Plaintiff: Insufficient seating for disabled persons.

Violation: Failing to provide a sufficient amount of seating when dining surfaces are provided for the consumption of food or drink for a person(s) with a disability in violation of 2010 ADAAG §§226, 226.1, 902, 305 and 306 and/or §5.1 of the 1991 ADA Standards.

Impact: The lack of accessible seating makes it difficult for Plaintiff to participate in social or dining activities where there is insufficient seating for disabled persons. Given his spinal stenosis, knee injuries, and shoulder issues, standing or using improperly configured seating leads to significant pain and discomfort.

Readily Achievable Alteration/Modification: Provide accessible tables with correct leg parameters dispersed throughout all seating areas which equals at least 5% of the total seating spaces.

16. The foregoing violations injured the Plaintiff directly and personally because they created barriers that denied him, as well as other disabled persons, full and equal access and full and equal enjoyment of the facilities, services, goods and amenities within the Premises that were afforded to able-bodied members of the community using the Premises.

- 17. As a result of the foregoing violations of the ADA, the Plaintiff determined that the Defendant did not welcome him and other disabled persons at the Premises because it continued to maintain discriminatory barriers long after the ADA became law in 1991 and many years after the 2010 amendments became effective. As a result, the Plaintiff also suffered personal humiliation as a result of the Defendant's continuing discrimination against the disabled.
- 18. Plaintiff would like to be able to be a patron of the Premises in the near future and be able to enjoy the goods and services that are available to the able-bodied public, but is currently precluded from doing so as a result of Defendant's discriminatory conduct as described herein. Plaintiff will continue to be precluded from using the Premises until corrective measures are taken at the Premises to eliminate the discrimination against persons with physical disabilities.
- 19. Plaintiff, in his individual capacity, will return to the Premises and avail himself to the services offered at the Premises when Defendant modifies the Premises and modifies the policies and practices to accommodate individuals who have physical disabilities.
- 20. Plaintiff is continuously aware of the violations at Defendant's Premises and is aware that it would be a futile gesture to return to the Premises as long as those violations exist. Plaintiff, however, is unwilling to suffer additional discrimination and humiliation by returning to a public place that is inaccessible to him and others with disabilities
- 21. Additionally, Plaintiff, in his capacity as a tester, intends to return to the Northwest suburbs of Chicago during the summer or fall of 2025, subject to plaintiff's physical condition, to determine if any of the previously discovered ADA violations at Defendant's Premises and other places of public accommodation have been rectified. If places have made agreements with Plaintiff to rectify any specific ADA violation, Plaintiff will also return within a reasonable time after the period for making the remediations have expired to confirm compliance.

- 22. Plaintiff has suffered, and will continue to suffer, direct and indirect injury as a result of Defendant's discrimination until Defendant is compelled to comply with the requirements of the ADA. It is Plaintiff's belief that said violations will not be corrected without Court intervention, and thus Plaintiff will suffer legal harm and injury in the near future.
- 23. To the best of Plaintiff's belief and knowledge, at the time of filing this lawsuit Defendant has failed to eliminate the specific violations set forth in paragraph 15 above.
- 24. Although Defendant is charged with having knowledge of the violations, Defendant may not have had actual knowledge of said violations until this Complaint made Defendant aware of same.
- 25. To date, the readily achievable barriers and violations of the ADA still exist at the Premises and have not been remedied or altered in such a way as to effectuate compliance with the provisions of the ADA.
- 26. As the owner, lessor, lessee or operator of the Premises, Defendant is required to comply with the ADA. To the extent the Premises, or portions thereof, existed and were occupied prior to January 26, 1992, the owner, lessor, lessee or operator has been under a continuing obligation to remove architectural barriers at the Premises where removal was readily achievable, as required by 28 C.F.R. §36.402.
- 27. To the extent the Premises, or portions thereof, were constructed for occupancy after January 26, 1993, the owner, lessor, lessee or operator of the Premises was under an obligation to design and construct such Premises such that it is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, as required by 28 C.F.R. §36.401.
- 28. To the extent the Premises, or portions thereof, were constructed for occupancy after January 26, 1993, the owner, lessor, lessee or operator of the Premises was under an obligation to

design and construct such Premises such that it is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, as required by 28 C.F.R. §36.401.

- 29. Pursuant to the ADA, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et. seq., and 28 CFR §36.304, Defendant was required to make the Premises, a place of public accommodation, accessible to persons with disabilities by January 28, 1992. As of the date of the filing of this Complaint, Defendant has failed to comply with this mandate.
- 30. Plaintiff has retained undersigned counsel for the filing and prosecution of this action. Plaintiff is entitled to have his reasonable attorneys' fees, costs and expenses paid by Defendant, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12205.
- 31. The violations alleged in paragraph 15 above are readily achievable to modify in order to bring the Premises into compliance with the ADA and when in compliance, the Plaintiff will return to enjoy the facilities to the same extend non-disabled patrons currently enjoy the facilities.
- 32. In the instances where the 2010 ADAAG Standards do not apply to the violations listed in paragraph 15 above, the 1991 ADA Standards apply.
- 33. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12188, this Court is vested with the authority to grant Plaintiff's injunctive relief, including entering an Order to alter the Premises to make them readily accessible to and useable by individuals with disabilities to the extent required by the ADA and closing the Premises until the requisite modifications are completed.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendant and requests the following injunctive and declaratory relief:

 a. This Court declare that the Premises owned, operated and/or controlled by Defendant is in violation of the ADA; Case: 1:25-cv-08068 Document #: 1 Filed: 07/16/25 Page 20 of 20 PageID #:20

b. This Court enter an Order requiring Defendant to alter the Premises and/or its

facilities to make them accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities to

the full extent required by Title III of the ADA;

c. This Court enter an Order directing Defendant to evaluate and neutralize its

policies, practices and procedures toward persons with disabilities, for such

reasonable time so as to allow Defendant to undertake and complete corrective

procedures to the Premises;

d. This Court award reasonable attorneys' fees, all costs (including, but not limited to

the court costs and expert fees) and other expenses of suit to Plaintiff; and

e. This Court award such other and further relief as it may deem necessary, just and

proper.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD COHAN

By: /s/ Marshall J. Burt

One of his attorneys

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